Amendments to the Claims

I. Amendments

Please withdraw claims 2-4, without prejudice or disclaimer, as directed to non-elected inventions.

Please amend the claims to read as indicated below:

II. The Claims of the Application

Claim 1 (**Cancelled**)

Claim 2. (**Currently amended**) The nucleic acid described in ~~claim 1~~ **claim 17**, wherein the nucleic acid is an RNA.

Claim 3. (**Currently amended**) The nucleic acid described in ~~claim 1~~ **claim 17**, wherein the nucleic acid is a cDNA.

Claim 4. (**Cancelled**)

Claim 5. (**Currently amended**) The nucleic acid described in ~~claim 4~~ **claim 18**, wherein the nucleic acid **molecule comprises a sequence** is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, **and** SEQ ID NO:10~~, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12~~.

Claim 6. (**Withdrawn**) A polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising the sequence given in SEQ ID NO:1 or the sequence given in SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 7. (**Withdrawn**) The polypeptide described in claim 6, wherein the polypeptide is a recombinantly produced polypeptide.

Claim 8. (**Withdrawn**) An antibody that binds immunospecifically with a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a sequence given in SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence given in SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 9. (**Cancelled**)

Claim 10. (**Currently amended**) The method described in ~~claim 9~~ **claim 19**, wherein the sample is a body fluid.

Claim 11. (**Currently amended**) The method described in ~~claim 9~~ **claim 19**, wherein the sample is tissue originating from the prostate.

Claim 12. (**Currently amended**) The method described in ~~claim 9~~ **claim 19**, wherein the determining step comprises amplifying the nucleic acid and detecting the amplified nucleic acid.

Claim 13. (**Withdrawn**) A method of detecting precancerous cells or cancer cells in the prostate of a subject, said method comprising providing a sample of tissue or fluid from the subject and determining whether the sample contains an abnormally high content of a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a sequence given in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3, whereby determining that the sample contains an abnormally high content of the polypeptide indicates that the subject has precancerous cells or cancer cells in the prostate.

Claim 14. (**Withdrawn**) The method described in claim 13, wherein the sample is a body fluid.

Claim 15. (**Withdrawn**) The method described in claim 13, wherein the sample is tissue originating from the prostate.

Claim 16. (**Withdrawn**) The method described in claim 13, wherein the determining step further comprises contacting at least a portion of the sample with an antibody that binds immunospecifically with the polypeptide and determining the amount of the antibody that has bound with the polypeptide present in the sample.

Claim 17. (**New**) A purified nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(A) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(B) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises a sequence that is complementary to the sequence of said nucleic acid molecule (A).

Claim 18. (**New**) A purified nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(A) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises a fragment of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said fragment hybridizes specifically with a nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(B) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises a sequence that is complementary to the sequence of said nucleic acid molecule (A).

Claim 19. (**New**) A method of detecting prostate cancer in a subject, said method comprising the steps:

(A) obtaining a sample of tissue or fluid from said subject, and

(B) determining whether said sample contains an abnormally high content of a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(1) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

(2) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises a fragment of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said fragment hybridizes specifically with a nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(3) a nucleic acid molecule that comprises a sequence that is complementary to the sequence of said nucleic acid molecule (1) or (2);

wherein detection of an abnormally high content of said nucleic acid molecule in indicative of the presence of prostate cancer in said subject.